

Message Text

SECRET

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42

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 271319Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4532

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T JIDDA 3036

EXDIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, PFOR, SA, JO, US

SUBJECT: JORDAN AIR DEFENSE

REF (A) STATE 100616, (B) AMMAN 2225, (C) AMMAN 2228

1. I DO NOT INTERPRET PARA 3 REFTEL A, CONTAINING INSTRUCTIONS TO ME, AS INDICATING THAT ADDITIONAL PROBLEM OF TIME IS AWAITING US ON APRIL 30. (FOR INDICATION ADDITIONAL TIME MAY BE NEEDED, SEE FOLLOWING TEL.) UNLESS INSTRUCTED TO CONTRARY, I WILL INDICATE TO SAUDIS, WITHOUT GOING INTO DATES, WE WILL REACTIVATE PRODUCTION FACILITIES FOR DDANIAN HAWKS IF FUNDING PROBLEM IS SATISFACTORY SETTLED.

2. IN CONNECTION REFTEL C, I ADVISE AGAINST TAKING TO SAUDIS STATEMENT COMING FROM RIFAI, AS SUGGESTED. ONE FROM HIM QUOTING HUSSEIN (WITH OR WITHOUT INDICATED VARIATIONS) WOULD NOT HELP AT ALL.

3. I AM LONG WAY FROM BELIEVING THAT THERE WILL BE DATE BEYOND WHICH NOTHING MORE COULD BE DONE (REFTEL B.(9 PARA 3). THIS SUGGESTION IMPLIES WE THROW IN SPONGE AND PERMIT HUSSEIN TO DO HIS SILLY THING WITHOUT FURTHER EFFORT BY US TO PERSUADE HIM TO DISIST. I AM PREPARED, IF DEPARTMENT FEELS NEED OF ADVICE OF DIFFERENT NATURE, TO SUBMIT IT FOR

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CONSIDERATION. I THINK WE CAN SAFELY SAY TO JORDANIANS (OR

SAUDIS) AT ANY TIME WHAT OUR INTEREST DICTATE, WHAT COMMON
SENSE INDICATES SHOULD BE SAID, AND USE WHATEVER LEVERAGE WE
POSSESS WHICH SEEMS LIKELY TO ACHIEVE OUR AIM.
PORTER

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NNN

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